

Since then there have been no recorded sightings.

On 13 October 1982 we saw a female White-winged Triller perched in a eucalypt eating a caterpillar. The observation was made below the microwave tower near the camping ground on a sunny morning. In addition to obtaining a good look at the bird, a tape recording was made of its calls. On the basis of this tape Graeme Chapman (CSIRO) verified our identification.

#### REFERENCES

- GLAUERT, L. 1929. Contributions to the fauna of Rottneest Island. No. 1 Introduction and Vertebrates. *J. Proc. R. Soc. West. Aust.* 15:37-46.
- STORR, G.M. 1965. The avifauna of Rottneest Island, Western Australia. III Landbirds. *Emu* 64:172-180.
- D.A. SAUNDERS and C.P. de REBEIRA, Division Wildlife Research, CSIRO, Helena Valley, W.A. 6056.

**Black Butcherbird in Western Australia.** — In October 1982 I observed or heard about twenty Black Butcherbirds (*Cracticus quoyi*) in three well-separated stands of mangroves 40-50 km north of Wyndham and collected three specimens. Previously the westernmost record of this species in northern Australia was at Port Keats, N.T., ca. 160 km eastwards.

I am grateful to Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Butler, whose grant to the Western Australian Museum enabled me to join the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife's survey of the Cambridge Gulf mangroves led by Mr. N.L. McKenzie.

— R.E. JOHNSTONE, W.A. Museum, Perth.

**A Red-necked Phalarope at Pelican Point.** — A Red-necked Phalarope, *Phalaropus lobatus*, was observed by the Environmental Science class from Churchlands College of Advanced Education during a field excursion to the Pelican Point Bird Sanctuary on the Swan River foreshore at Crawley, W.A. (31°59'S, 115°49'E), on the afternoon of April 7th, 1981. As beginning bird watchers, we were very sceptical of our identification from [E. Slater (1970), *A Field Guide to Australian Birds: Non-Passerines*], particularly as this species is so rarely seen in Australia, and so I returned the following afternoon to observe and photograph the bird.

On both occasions the Phalarope was seen swimming alone at the north-eastern end of the swamp within the sanctuary, and was never more than one metre from the shore. It was in constant motion, bobbing and turning as it swam. This is characteristic behaviour for the species [*Reader's Digest Complete Book of Australian Birds* (1976), p201]. It was also very tame and I was able to get within 10 metres of it to convince myself of its identity.

This sighting has now been confirmed by Mr Jim Lane of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, who advises that the phalarope is a female and in breeding plumage. This species has recently been recorded at Rottneest Island in winter plumage [Smith and Saunders (1980), *West. Aust. Nat.*, 14: 237-238], but I believe this is a new record for the Swan River and the Pelican Point Bird Sanctuary.

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